

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
23 December 2004 (23.12.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/111331 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

D21C

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EB, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/018103

(22) International Filing Date: 8 June 2004 (08.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/477,014 9 June 2003 (09.06.2003) US

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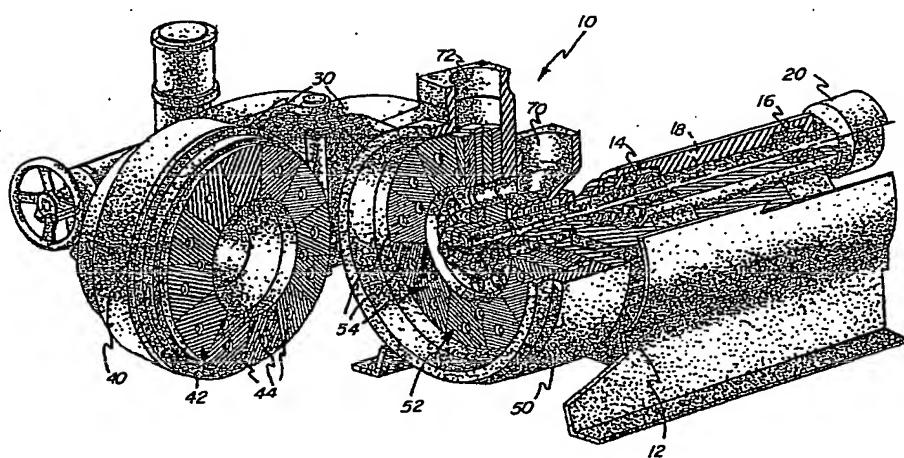
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SELF-ALIGNING AND ACTIVELY COMPENSATING REFINER STATOR PLATE SYSTEM



WO 2004/111331 A2

(57) Abstract: An improvement to a mechanical refining system relates to an apparatus including three or more actuators coupled to a stator of the refining system, and a controller for independently operating the actuators. An improved method of refining permits adjustment of the overall width of a refining gap between refining elements mounted by the stator and a rotor as well as the trim of the refining elements relative to each other. In accordance with an especially preferred embodiment, the apparatus comprises an end plate, a stator including a refining element, and three or more actuators coupled to the stator for controlling the position and orientation of the stator. The end plate closes the open end of a refiner casing and also provides support for the actuators. In this manner, the apparatus can be used either as an original component of a newly-manufactured system or as a retrofit to an existing system.

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(43) International Publication Date
23 December 2004 (23.12.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/111331 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B02C 25/00**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/018103

(22) International Filing Date: 8 June 2004 (08.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
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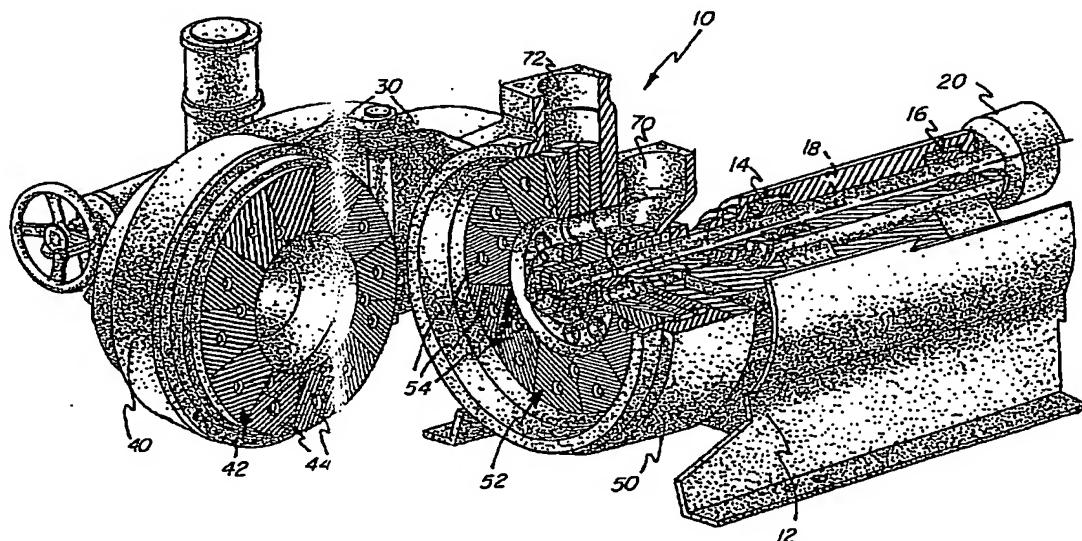
Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
12 May 2005

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SELF-ALIGNING AND ACTIVELY COMPENSATING REFINER STATOR PLATE SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An improvement to a mechanical refining system relates to an apparatus including three or more actuators (100) coupled to a stator (42) of the refining system, and a controller for independently operating the actuators. An improved method of refining permits adjustment of the overall width of a refining gap between refining elements mounted by the stator and a rotor as well as the trim of the refining elements relative to each other.

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